

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

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EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS

FOL RPT JERUSALEM 1080 ACTION SECSTATE INFO AMMAN BEIRUT
CAIRO DAMASCUS DAKAR KATHMANDU LAGOS LONDON JIDDA PARIS BONN
TEHRAN TEL AVIV USUN NY 13 APR 78 QUOTE

S E C R E T JERUSALEM 1080

EXDIS DISTRIBUTE AS NODIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, MOPS, PBOR, UNSC, IS, LE, XF

SUBJ: SIILASVUO APPEAL FOR ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL BY END OF APRIL

REF: (A) TEL AVIV 4878 (B) LEWIS - DRAPER TELCON

SUMMARY: SIILASVUO WILL SEND MESSAGE TO WEIZMAN STATING THAT,
AFTER HAVING CONFERRED WITH UNIFIL COMMANDER ERSKINE, WHEN
IMMINENT DEPLOYMENT OF NEPALESE COMPLETED, HE HOPES GOI WILL
ANNOUNCE A SIGNIFICANT WITHDRAWAL. MOREOVER, WHEN
SENEGALESE ARE DEPLOYED, HE HOPES GOI WILL COMPLETE WITH-
DRAWAL BY APRIL 30. (THIS MESSAGE CAN BE REINFORCED BY
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WALDHEIM PERSONALLY IN JERUSALEM ON APRIL 17-18.) SIILASVUO
REQUESTS WE HELP ENSURE SENEGALESE ARE HERE BY APRIL 22ND.
HE ALSO HOPES WE WILL ENCOURAGE BOUTROS TO PERMIT KHOURY
TO MEET WITH ISRAELIS IN NAQOURA UNDER
UN AUSPICES. END SUMMARY

1. AT AMBASSADOR LEWIS' SUGGESTION, SIILASVUO CAME TO MY

RESIDENCE LATE AFTERNOON APRIL 13 JUST AFTER HIS RETURN FROM NAQOURA WHERE HE HAD MET WITH GENERALS ERSKINE AND CUQ. CONSIDERING UNIFIL'S MANY PROBLEMS, HE THOUGHT SITUATION ON THE GROUND WAS IN FAIRLY REASONABLE SHAPE.

2. AMBASSADOR LEWIS THEN DESCRIBED POLITICAL PROBLEMS BUILDING UP IN NEW YORK AND STRENUOUS EFFORTS HE WAS MAKING TO GET ISRAELIS TO ANNOUNCE THEIR INTENTION TO WITHDRAW COMPLETELY BEFORE THE END OF APRIL. HOWEVER, ISRAELIS WERE HIDING BEHIND UN AND STATING THEIR PRESENT PLANS (WHICH DEPEND ON FULL DEPLOYMENT OF UNIFIL AND INTRODUCTION OF LAF FORCES INTO THE AREA) MET WITH SIILASVUO'S APPROVAL.

3. SIILASVUO DISPLAYED EXASPERATION. HE HAD TO BE LOYAL TO SC RES 425 WHICH, OF COURSE, DID NOT LINK WITHDRAWAL TO DEPLOYMENT, AND TO SYG'S STATEMENT ISRAELI PLANS ARE INADEQUATE. AT SAME TIME, HE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE SITUATION ON THE GROUND AND AT PRESENT HE DID NOT HAVE ENOUGH FORCES TO ENCIRCLE TYRE AND DEPLOY ALL ALONG THE LITANI AND ISRAELIS KENOW THIS AS WELL AS HE. (AT THIS POINT, AMBASSADOR LEWIS WAS SUMMONED TO PHONE CALL FROM DEPARTMENT.).

4. IN ENSURING CONVERSATION, NEWLIN STRESSED WE SEEMED TO BE GOING AROUND IN CIRCLES. SIILASVUO THEN SAID HE WOULD SEND MESSAGE TO WEIZMAN DESCRIBED IN SUMMARY ABOVE. WHEN AMBASSADOR LEWIS REJOINED CONVERSATION, HE SAID HE THOUGH SUCH A MESSAGE
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WOULD BE HELPFUL.

5. SIILASVUO HAS HAD NO FIRM WORD FROM NEW YORK ON ARRIVAL OF SENEGALESE. HE ASKED US TO DO OURBEST IN WASHINGTON, NEW YORK AND DAKAR TO ENSURE THEIR ARRIVAL BY APRIL 22.

6. HE ALSO REQUESTED WE ASK AMBASSADOR PARKER TO APPROACH BOUTROS TO PERMIT KHOURY MAKE A TRIP TO NAQOURA FOR A MEETING WITH SIILASVUO AND ERSKINE AT WHICH AN ISRAELI GENERAL WOULD ALSO BE PRESENT (PRESUMABLY THIS WOULD BE EITAN GIVEN GUR'S COMING DEPARTURE FROM THE SERVICE).

7. COMMENT: RE LEWIS - DRAPER TELCON, AMBASSADOR LEWIS BELIEVES ABOVE MESSAGE IS AS MUCH AS WE CAN REASONABLY ASK SIILASVUO TO TRY TO GET FROM THE ISRAELIS. IN FACT, TIMING IS GOOD SINCE WALDHEIM WILL BE ABLE TO REINFORCE SIILASVUO'S MESSAGE IN PERSON AT THE BEGINNING OF NEXT WEEK. SUCH A COMMITMENT, IF OBTAINED, SHOULD MAKE SC MEETING AND SPECIAL GA ON FINANCING CONSIDERABLE EASIER EXERCISE.

8. TEHRAN'S 3537 ARRIVED BEFORE END OF MEETING AND GIST WAS PASSED TO SIILASVUO FOR HIS BACKGROUND. HE WAS DELIGHTED.

NEWLIN

UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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